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SECURITY INFORMATION
CLASSIFICATION

MAR 3 1953

TO : Chief of Mission, Frankfurt
Attention: Pullach/

DATE: _____

FROM : Chief, EE

SUBJECT: GENERAL : Operational
SPECIFIC : Otto SOMANN

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 9828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2008

REF : EGIA-2278

1. Following are the most likely traces available here on Otto SOMANN:

SHAEP Card 125145: SS Ostubef. SOMANN - Fuehrer of SD Leitabschnitt Breslau in June 1940.

SHAEP Card 116997: SS Oberf. der Sipo and SD SOMANN - born about 1902; dark hair; tall; from Northern Germany; university education; not a civil servant; replaced ACHNER-PIPRADER as IdS Wiesbaden in mid 1944 and was replaced by TRUMMLER in September 1944; joined Amt IV (Grenzinspektion).

SHAEP Card 114499: SOMANN - SS Standartenfuehrer; Oberst d. Polizei; Inspekteur der Sipo/SD; at Sipo/SD Wiesbaden in April 1944.

II-002-725, dated 25 July 1945: SS Obf. und Gen. Maj. der Polizei SOMANN - Chief of Referat IV G (Dienststelle des Generalgrenzinspektors) under MUELLER, the chief of Amt IV, RSHA; later promoted to Inspekteur of the Zollgrenzschutz; probably a bachelor; assumed to come from Northern Germany; a career official.

Archives Dossier: (Interrogation of Christian BAUMANN), dated June 1945.) SS Oberfuehrer SOMANN - born about 1900; 1.80m tall; well built; round face; ambitious; in Amt IV of RSHA as deputy General Grenzinspekteur; came from Hamburg where he was formerly Leiter of an SD Oberabschnitt; last seen 5 May 1945.

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at Flensburg, at which time he stated that he was going to be attached to the Regierungspraesident in Schleswig and that he was going to form a Grenzschutzkorps on the German-Danish frontier; member of the Nordstab of the RSHA which was formed in April 1945. SCHMANN did all the work that the office of General Grenzinspektor involved. He and his staff were given the task of bringing about a better frontier control and, above all, the task of creating a unified Grenzschutzkorps. Instead of applying themselves to this task of practical frontier control, they spent their time elaborating newer and more complicated procedures for frontier crossings, and thus the illegal traffic was increased enormously.

MEB-10116, dated 28 June 1950: SCHMANN - Commander of the First Mecklenburg Bereitschaft unit in Stern-Buchholz.

2. Was SCHMANN ever called to testify at the trial of MORITZ et al as reported in RSHA-247, paragraph 3?

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